

Cornhuskers slow practices to one a day

LINCOLN, Neb. (AP) — A happy and relieved bunch of football players walked off Nebraska’s practice fields Wednesday after the last of two-a-day workouts.

The No. 10 Cornhuskers go to single practices in preparation for the season opener next Saturday against Arizona State.

“I’m sure that they’re anxious to start the season,” coach Frank Solich said after Wednesday’s final practice.

The Huskers were to practice Thursday morning and hold a full-scale scrimmage on Friday. In the first scrimmage last weekend, the defense dominated while the offense struggled.

“You always look for perfection and you’re never going to get that in two-a-days, of course, but they worked hard at it. That’s always a good sign,” Solich said. “We still have to get better with execution. We’ve got a ways to go there, but about every team does.”

Most of the Huskers were all smiles after the 90 minute afternoon workout in half pads. Even with a return to uncomfortably hot temperatures from Tuesday’s cool conditions, the relief of ending two-a-days was evident.

But that doesn’t mean Nebraska is ready for Arizona State right now, senior linebacker Scott Shanle said.

“I think a lot of guys have the right frame of mind. If you feel relief, you might sit back and say, ‘Wow, all the hard work is done’,” Shanle said.

“Even though it may not be two practices a day, that just means we have to utilize the time that we’re out here on one-a-days. We can’t take any plays off.”

The Huskers survived two-a-days with no significant injuries, although several players are banged up and will miss Friday’s scrimmage. Among them is backup quarterback Curt Dukes, who is battling Mike Stuntz for the No. 2 job.

“People’s bodies are banged up. They have little nagging injuries,” Shanle said. “It will be key to fight through that because a week and a half away is when Arizona State comes.”

Chiefs remind Green of Dallas

RIVER FALLS, Wis. (AP)—Quarterback Trent Green knows people compare the 2002 Kansas City Chiefs’ offense to his old team, the St. Louis Rams. But he said the Chiefs remind him of a different Super Bowl team from a previous decade.

“Our team is much more molded like the Dallas teams of the early ’90s,” he said. “They had (Jay) Novacek and we have (Tony) Gonzalez, two of the better tight ends in the history of the game. With Emmitt (Smith), obviously Priest has to do it back-to-back-to-back years to get it to Emmitt’s level. There’s (full-back) Daryl Johnston and obviously Tony Richardson, then with the additions of Johnnie Morton and Eddie Kennison, hopefully they can get to that level where I think we’d be much more comparable to that team than we are to St. Louis.”

That is, if Green can fill the role played in Dallas by Troy Aikman, and if Tony Gonzalez ends his holdout and rejoins his teammates in time for the start of the season.

As for the first point, Green said this is the best he’s felt since throwing 23 touchdown passes in 1998



Jason Krayca (above), 12, played a game of ping-pong Thursday at the Goodland Activities Center, then stepped aside so Jordan Albers (below), 12, could have a turn.

About 20 kids were at the center Thursday, whiling away time until school starts Monday, Aug. 26.

Photos by Doug Stephens/The Goodland Daily News

Kids spend summer at activities center

In the summer, the Goodland Activities Center is a popular place to drop off kids for the afternoon.

On Thursday about 20 kids were at the center, doing everything from watching television to playing ping-pong with no net, to inventing a hybrid version of badminton.

“They are really imaginative,” said Donna Terry, administrator of the center. “They’ll find something to do.”

Alexis Schields, 11, was hitting a volley-

ball against a wall in the gym. She said she comes in to the center every once in a while, usually after school.

Jordan Albers, 12, one of the badminton players, said he goes down almost every day, sometimes for up to five hours at a time, just to hang out or play a little pool.

“This is a good place for kids to spend time,” Terry said. “At least they’re not out getting in trouble until school starts.”



Former Cardinal pitcher dies

HOUSTON (AP) — Jack Dalton Creel, who overcame a deformity to his hands to pitch for the St. Louis Cardinals in 1945, has died. He was 86.

Creel, who died Tuesday in a Houston hospital, was born with slightly deformed hands but was able to pitch professionally for 20 years.

While Creel pitched in the majors just one season, when he went 5-4 with a 4.14 ERA in 1945, he spent 19 years playing in the minors.

After a shoulder injury cut short his major league career, Creel returned to the Houston Buffs, a farm club of the Cardinals. In 1947, Creel was in the starting rotation when the Buffs won the “Dixie Series,” which pitted the champions of the Texas League against their counterparts in the Southern Association.

Although Creel pitched for other teams, including the Beaumont Exporters, he spent most of his career with

the Buffs.

Solly Hemus, who spent 15 years in the major leagues as player and coach and was a teammate of Creel’s, said he

never knew that Creel’s hands were deformed.

“He was a great pitcher,” Hemus said. “He had a great curveball.”

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‘Santa Claus’ cheering for Royals

KANSAS CITY, Mo. (AP) — Joe Hess was not in his usual spot at Kauffman Stadium. But he was home.

Hess is perhaps the Royals’ most visible fan, with his Royals-blue Santa-style hat and white beard. Hess is a regular in section 144, row J, seat 1.

But on Wednesday he watched the Kansas City Royals play the New York Yankees from a wheelchair in Section 106, which gave him a perfect view of the entire field behind the Kansas City home plate.

“It’s a small piece of heaven, isn’t it?” Hess said.

Hess’ left foot was amputated Aug. 2 because of a persistent muscle infection.

Fans noticed the blue-hatted, almost an icon really, wasn’t at his usual place in the bleachers.

“Where’s Santa?” a sign read from the bleachers.

Hess had worried that he wouldn’t get back to Kauffman where, for most of 25 years, he has arrived hours before game time to get the best choice of the general-admission seats in the right-field stands.

Seeing Kauffman again made him misty-eyed.

“To be there, and to see all the magical things about the game,” he said. “Things like seeing a shortstop go out to left field to get a ball. That’s what the game is all about.”

Hess’ doctor, Walter Bender, said he noticed Hess was not himself when he was in the hospital.

The rehabilitative road for Hess, Bender said, is expected to be long and getting him back to the stadium was an important part of the therapy that Bender predicts will be a complete success.

Hess’ wife, Dorothy, along with other family members said goodbye to him from the hospital as he and Bender left for the game.

“He was starting to feel like he would never get to the stadium again,” Dorothy said. “It’s a big physical hurdle he’s had to go through.”

The guy who had premonitions he might never see a game again was already making ticket plans for next year.

“If I’m alive and ticking,” Hess said, “I think I’m going to get a seat out there,” and he pointed down the right-field line, to an area in the shade.

“That’s the place to be.”

Sunflower Contest

RULES

- Write down as many words (at least 3 letters) that you can think of using the word “Observance”
 - Do not use proper names
- Bring your completed list to The Goodland Daily News office at 1205 Main

by noon by Saturday, Aug. 17

Winners will be announced in the Monday, Aug. 19 edition

1. _____	26. _____
2. _____	27. _____
3. _____	28. _____
4. _____	29. _____
5. _____	30. _____
6. _____	31. _____
7. _____	32. _____
8. _____	33. _____
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16. _____	41. _____
17. _____	42. _____
18. _____	43. _____
19. _____	44. _____
20. _____	45. _____
21. _____	46. _____
22. _____	47. _____
23. _____	48. _____
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25. _____	50. _____

(If you have more than 50, please attach an additional sheet)

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